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EO 12065: GDS 11/03/87 (DEAN, J. G.) OR-M
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, SHUM, PORG, MILI, LA, TH, AF, CB, VM, UR
SUBJ: REPORT OF NEW U.S. EVIDENCE OF "POISON GAS"
REF: A. STATE 289834
1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. JACQUES BEKAERT, A EUROPEAN JOURNALIST ON THE STAFF OF THE NATION, AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IN BANGKOK, SHOWED US A STORY SOON TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NATION WHICH STATES THAT THE U.S.G. HAS DEVELOPED "NEW EVIDENCE" PROVING USE OF "POISON GAS" IN LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND AFGHANISTAN (SIC). THE REPORT CITES AN OCTOBER 24 INTERVIEW WITH UNDER SECRETARY STOESSEL IN EUROPE. THE JOURNALIST AND HIS EDITOR HAVE APPROACHED US FOR SOME EXPANSION ON THE STORY.
3. THE NATION REPORT WOULD DESCRIBE THE "NEW EVIDENCE" AS ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FROM LAOS, KAMPUCHEA AND AFGHANISTAN THAT IS "CONTAMINATED" ACCORDING TO U.S. TESTS. THE NATION HAS ASKED IF THE CONTAMINATION IS BY MYCOTOXINS AS WAS THE EARLIER LEAF SAMPLE FROM KAMPUCHEA, AND WHETHER THE U.S.G. WILL BE ANNOUNCING THE NEW FINDINGS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
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4. WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE WE MIGHT USE IN RESPONDING TO NATION AND LIKELY FOLLOW-UP QUERIES FROM OTHER PRESS.
DEAN
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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